Miss Bernard Said。

YUKI SHIKAWA

Miss Bernard said YUKI SHIKAWA

REX COMICS

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Miss Bernard Said。

YUKI SHIKAWA

ICHIJINSHA

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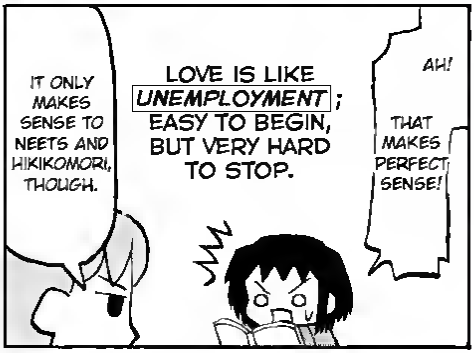
Miss Bernard said。

EVERY DAY, THIS GIRL SITS ALONE,
READING A BOOK,
IN A CORNER OF THE LIBRARY.
AT FIRST GLANCE, SHE MAY LOOK LIKE A REAL BOOKWORM.
BUT I KNOW BETTER.
THIS GIRL IS ONLY READING HER BOOK
glance
WHEN SOMEONE IS LOOKING HER WAY.
HER NAME IS MISS BERNARD.
THAT'S A NICK-NAME, OF COURSE.
Real name: Sawako Machida
YOU CAN CALL ME MISS BERNARD.
SHE TELLS PEOPLE TO CALL HER THAT HERSELF.
I THINK IT MIGHT BE A REFER-ENCE TO BERNARD SHAW.
INCIDEN-TALLY, I'VE NEVER ONCE HEARD ANYONE CALL HER BY THAT NAME.
FOR A WHILE NOW,
I'VE BEEN CALLING HER "MISS B".

※ George Bernard Shaw: Irish playwright of the 19th and 20th century. His most famous work is "Pygmalion".

AND THEN, SHE WILL LAUNCH INTO SOME ENIGMATIC MONOLOGUE.
I LOVE THE WAY BOOKS CAN INSTANTLY TAKE ME TO "SOMEWHERE THAT ISN'T HERE"...
IN FACT, SHE'S OFTEN THE ONE TO START UP A CONVERSATION.
HEY, ENDO-KUN...
BUT IT SEEMS I WAS WRONG.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THAT MISS B WAS READING BY HERSELF BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT OTHER PEOPLE TO TALK TO HER.
I'D SAY THAT MISS B IS MERELY TRYING TO LOOK LIKE AN AVID READER.
...IS SO SOOTHING, ISN'T IT?
AH... THE SMELL OF PAPER AND INK...
IF I HAD TO GUESS,
IT'S A TYPICAL MISS B CHOICE.
"I WANNA TRY USING THOSE! FAMOUS QUOTES FROM AROUND THE WORLD."
I wanna try using those!
Famous quotes from around the world
SHE MUST BE AN EXTREMELY SLOW READER.
IF YOU PAY ATTENTION, YOU'LL SEE THAT MISS B IS ALWAYS READING THE SAME BOOK.
MENCKEN? DOESN'T RING A BELL... WHAT'S HIS FULL NAME?
THERE'S A QUOTE FROM A GUY NAMED MENCKEN. HE SAID SOMETHING SUPER COOL.
LET'S SEE...
YEAH, LOTS!
ARE THERE ANY GOOD QUOTES IN THERE?

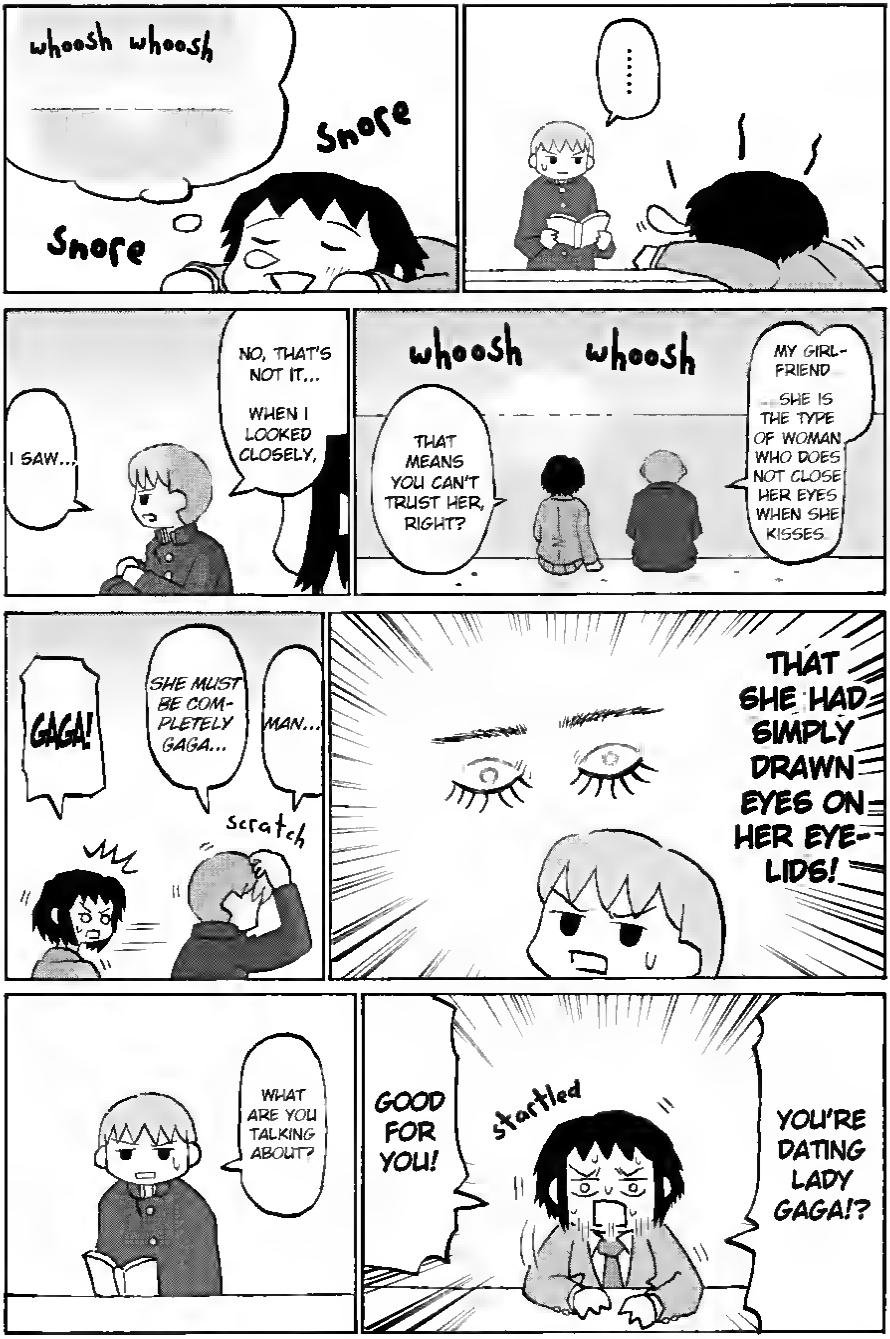
T/N Jinmenken = Human-faced dog


IT ONLY MAKES SENSE TO NEETS AND HIKIKOMORI, THOUGH.
LOVE IS LIKE UNEMPLOYMENT; EASY TO BEGIN, BUT VERY HARD TO STOP.
AH! THAT MAKES PERFECT SENSE!

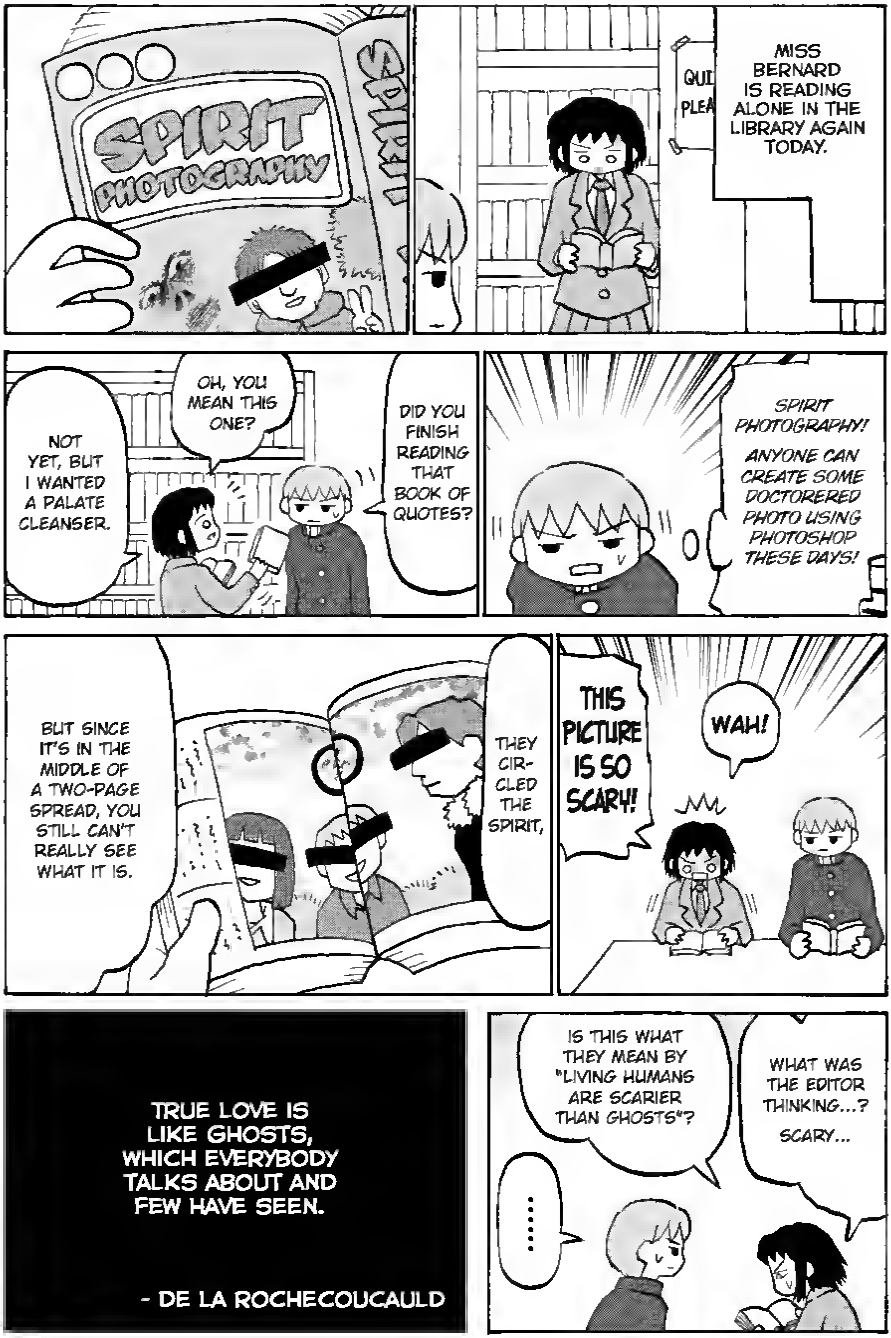
Miss Bernard said。

BUT SHE CAN ONLY KEEP THAT UP FOR FIVE MINUTES.
AT FIRST, SHE'LL SIT UP STRAIGHT, AS IF TO GIVE OFF AN AIR OF ALOOFNESS.
I WONDER IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS IN HER CLASS.
WHEN I COME TO THE LIBRARY DURING LUNCH, SAWAKO MACHIDA IS USUALLY THERE.
AND THEN, SHE'LL UTTER SOME OVERLY HONEST STATEMENT.
BOOKS WITH ONLY WORDS ARE SO BORING.
slump
BEFORE LONG, SHE'LL GIVE UP.
hmm hmm
.....
Side...
I WONDER WHY SHE EVEN COMES TO THE LIBRARY.
WHO'S THAT?
"DON'T TRUST A WOMAN WHO DOESN'T CLOSE HER EYES WHEN YOU KISS HER."
- H.J. BROWN.
SLEEP-LEARNING?
SLEEP-LEARNING HELPS ME MEMORIZE THINGS.
CAN YOU READ ME SOMETHING, ENDO-KUN?

【H.J. BROWN SAID。】


whoosh whoosh
Snore
Snore
.....
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...
WHEN I LOOKED CLOSELY,
I SAW...
whoosh whoosh
THAT MEANS YOU CAN'T TRUST HER, RIGHT?
MY GIRL-FRIEND ... SHE IS THE TYPE OF WOMAN WHO DOES NOT CLOSE HER EYES WHEN SHE KISSES.
GAGA!
SHE MUST BE COM-PLETELY GAGA...
MAN...
scratch
THAT SHE HAD SIMPLY DRAWN EYES ON HER EYE-LIDS!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
GOOD FOR YOU!
startled
YOU'RE DATING LADY GAGA!?

Miss Bernard said。

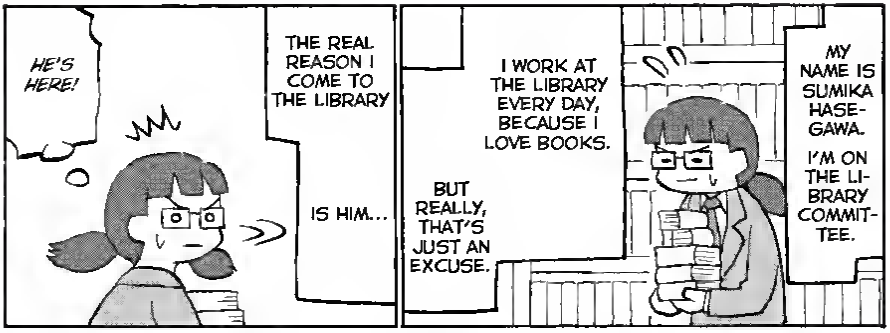

SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHY
SPIRIT
MISS BERNARD IS READING ALONE IN THE LIBRARY AGAIN TODAY.
QUI
PLEA
OH, YOU MEAN THIS ONE?
NOT YET, BUT I WANTED A PALATE CLEANSER.
DID YOU FINISH READING THAT BOOK OF QUOTES?
SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHY!
ANYONE CAN CREATE SOME DOCTORERED PHOTO USING PHOTOSHOP THESE DAYS!
BUT SINCE IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF A TWO-PAGE SPREAD, YOU STILL CAN'T REALLY SEE WHAT IT IS.
THEY CIR-CLED THE SPIRIT,
THIS PICTURE IS SO SCARY!
WAH!
TRUE LOVE IS LIKE GHOSTS, WHICH EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT AND FEW HAVE SEEN.
- DE LA ROCHECOUCAULD
IS THIS WHAT THEY MEAN BY "LIVING HUMANS ARE SCARIER THAN GHOSTS"?
WHAT WAS THE EDITOR THINKING...?
SCARY...
.....

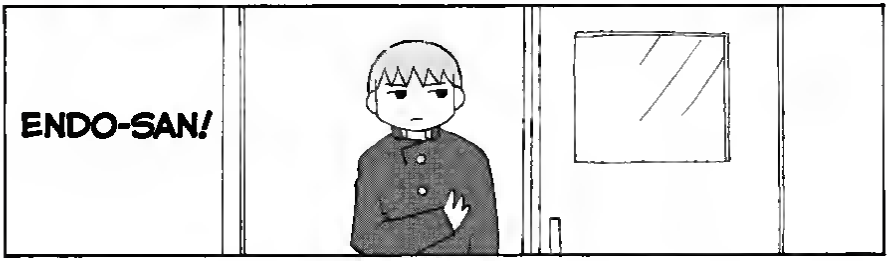
※ François de La Rochefoucauld: 17th century French aristocrat and scholar of literature
His most famous work is "Reflections, or Sentences and Moral Maxims".

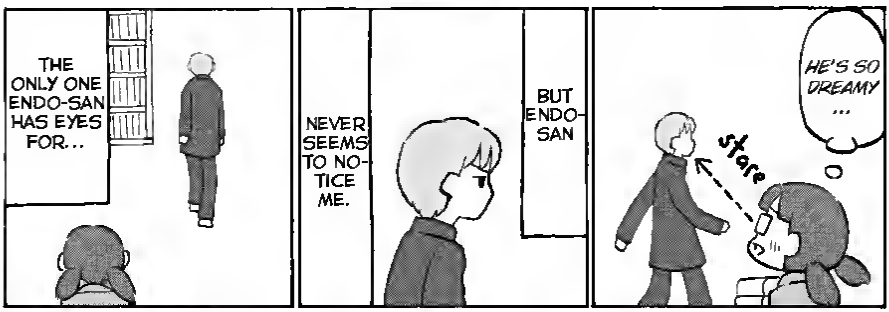
【DE LA ROCHECOUCAULD SAID。】

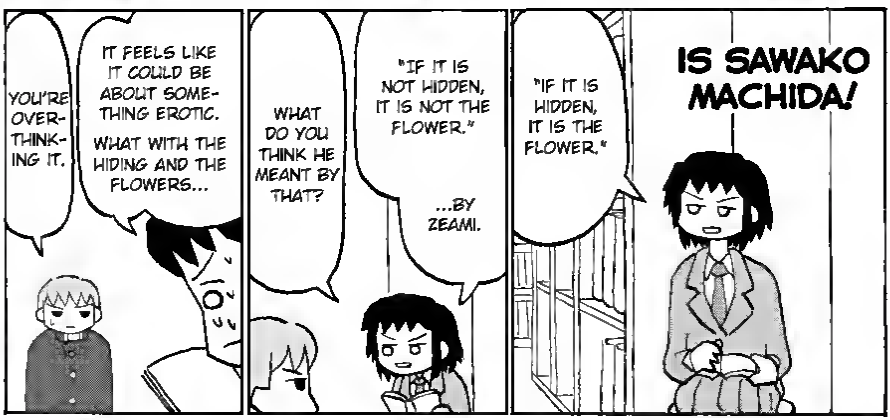
SO I IMAGINE THAT SEEING "TRUE LOVE" WOULD SHOCK ME FAR MORE THAN SEEING A REAL GHOST.
THANKS TO SPIRIT PHOTO-GRAPHY, I AM NOW USED TO SEEING GHOSTS.
HMM.
YOU THINK HE'S BEING SARCASTIC?
TRUE LOVE IS LIKE GHOSTS, HUH?
IT'S A GHOST!
HOLY CRAP!
ha!
THIS IS ME WHEN I SEE A GHOST.
LOOK!
HUH?
IT'S TRUE LOVE !!!
HOLY CRAP !!!
THIS IS ME WHEN I SEE TRUE LOVE.
AND NOW...
ahem
...AND I MEAN THAT IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
ARE YOU OKAY...?
bonk

Miss Bernard Said。


HE'S HERE!
THE REAL REASON I COME TO THE LIBRARY
IS HIM...
I WORK AT THE LIBRARY EVERY DAY, BECAUSE I LOVE BOOKS.
BUT REALLY, THAT'S JUST AN EXCUSE.
MY NAME IS SUMIKA HASEGAWA.
I'M ON THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

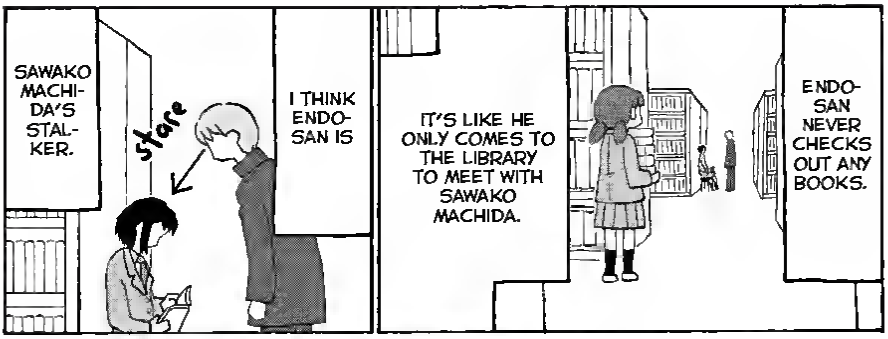


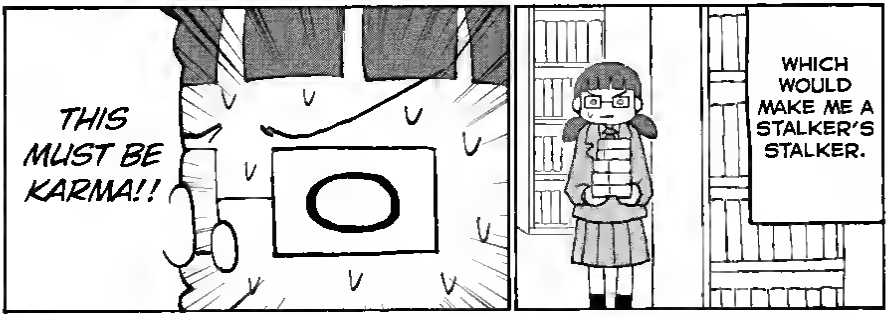


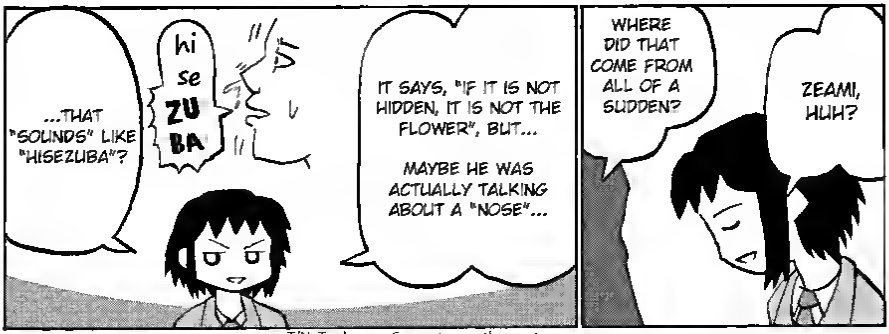

YOU'RE OVERTHINKING IT.
IT FEELS LIKE IT COULD BE ABOUT SOMETHING EROTIC.
WHAT WITH THE HIDING AND THE FLOWERS...
WHAT DO YOU THINK HE MEANT BY THAT?
"IF IT IS NOT HIDDEN, IT IS NOT THE FLOWER."
...BY ZEAMI.
"IF IT IS HIDDEN, IT IS THE FLOWER."
IS SAWAKO MACHIDA!

※ Zeami: Master of Noh theatre during the Muromachi period. Together with his father, Kan'ami, he rose to the top of the Noh theatre world. His most famous work is "Fūshikaden".

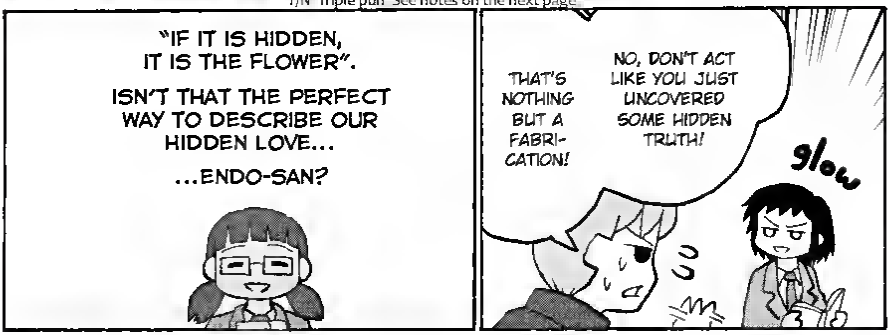
【ZEAMI SAID。】


SAWAKO MACHIDA'S STALKER.
I THINK ENDO-SAN IS
stare
IT'S LIKE HE ONLY COMES TO THE LIBRARY TO MEET WITH SAWAKO MACHIDA.
ENDO-SAN NEVER CHECKS OUT ANY BOOKS.




...THAT "SOUNDS" LIKE "HISEZUBA"?
hi se ZU BA
IT SAYS, "IF IT IS NOT HIDDEN, IT IS NOT THE FLOWER", BUT...
MAYBE HE WAS ACTUALLY TALKING ABOUT A "NOSE"...
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM ALL OF A SUDDEN?
ZEAMI, HUH?

T/N Triple pun. See notes on the next page.


"IF IT IS HIDDEN, IT IS THE FLOWER".
ISN'T THAT THE PERFECT WAY TO DESCRIBE OUR HIDDEN LOVE...
...ENDO-SAN?
THAT'S NOTHING BUT A FABRICATION!
NO, DON'T ACT LIKE YOU JUST UNCOVERED SOME HIDDEN TRUTH!
glow

Translation Notes

Page 5
The nickname "Miss Bernard" was inspired by Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw. In Japanese, "Bernard Shaw" is pronounced as "Baanaado Shou". As shown in the panel below, Machida misread his last name as "**Jou**" when she chose her nickname. As a suffix, "jou" means "miss", hence "Miss Bernard".

Endo calls Machida "Do jou". This is the last part of "Baanaa**do-jou**". I've translated this as "Miss B".

Page 6
The title of the quotes book starts with "Tsukattemitai", translated here as "I wanna try using those". The "Tsukattemitai" part is used in the title of a number of real books, including one about samurai style Japanese.

Page 7
"Jinmenken", or Human-Faced Dogs, are a popular Japanese urban legend. According to the legend, these dogs are mostly encountered at night. While they can speak, they're often rude and dismissive.

The "Love is like war" quote is from H.L. Mencken, an American journalist.

Page 8
H. Jackson Brown, Jr. is an American author, best known for his "Life's Little Instruction Book" series, which is also the source of the quote about women who kiss with their eyes open.

Page 9
Lady Gaga is called "Gaga jou" here, which is an infrequently used nickname for Lady Gaga in Japan. The "jou" suffix is the same one as in "Baanaado jou", which might explain why Machida uses this nickname.

Page 12
The "Flower" is a central concept in Zeami's teachings. Although never clearly defined by Zeami himself, the Flower is essentially a *je ne sais quoi* quality that attracts an audience to a certain performer of performance.

Page 13
The fifth panel contains an elaborate pun on Zeami's quote. In Japanese, the second part ("If it is not hidden, it is not the flower") reads "Hisezuba hana narubekarazu". Machida reinterprets "hana" (flower) as "nose", "naru" as the verb for "to sound", and "hisezuba" as a kind of sneezing sound. Thus, it becomes a quote about a "nose" that "sounds" like "hisezuba".

Mr. Shikawa said.

[Famous Quotes]

In order to write a manga about famous quotes, I first read through a number of collections of famous quotes for reference. There weren't a lot of quotes that were both short and catchy, though. Some were so long that they were more like anecdotes, some were almost impossible to understand without knowing the context, and many others were too grave to use in a normal conversation. Whenever one made me think, "This is great!", I would try to memorize it so that I could use it later on. But the right time to use one hardly ever came, and when it finally did, I suddenly couldn't remember the words. In the end, I decided that there was no point in reading these quotes over and over again if I couldn't even use them on the people around me.

Speaking of quotes that you can actually use, anime and manga are full of them. Just take Captain Goto's long speech in *Patlabor 2*, or one of the many speeches in *JoJo*, which I read as a kid. There are some quotes that I've used unintentionally in times of trouble, like this one, from the old man with the incurable disease in *Princess Mononoke*: "The world is cursed, but still you find reasons to keep living." Or this one, from the manga version of *Nausicaä*: "We are birds who, though we may spit up blood, will go on flying beyond that morning!"

I believe that people are most likely to use the words of a great man when they're trying to persuade somebody. And while they can be used to support your argument, actually using them requires quite some courage. If you imagine that people react to your impromptu Shakespeare lines with thoughts like, "There's no way that guy actually reads Shakespeare", or "Wow, I'm amazed he can quote someone like Shakespeare with a straight face", you'll soon stop reciting them. And when you use the smartest quote in your repotoire, the person you're talking to is sure to counter with something like, "But didn't that person also say...?"

"As Mahatma Gandhi said, 'An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.' "

"But didn't Gandi also say, 'I do believe that where there is only a choice between cowardice and violence, I would advise violence.' ?"